

Midstate ARC

●ARES ●INCERT ●ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 1984

The MIDSTATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Newsletter

Vol 3 Ed 5

President	Paul Thomas	KA9DTH	881-6338
Vice-Pres	Joan Kemp	N9DON	736-9355
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Activities	Ed Woods	WD9DVA	887-3510
ARES E.C.	Dan Dews	KK9G	882-8843
Editor	Bradley Stone	NB9M	882-5245

QRM de NB9M

For those of you who don't know or haven't met me, allow me to introduce myself. I have been an amateur for nearly two years. I am employed in Indianapolis as a printed circuit designer, and have been involved in electronics as a technician for ten years. My wife Brenda, son Matthew and I live in Greenwood. I am an active home-brewer, a tinkerer, and am primarily concerned with the growth of amateur radio, along with the technical skills it inspires within its ranks.

I look forward to working with all of you as editor, and pledge to you that this newsletter will grow with the club. If I can be of any assistance, or, if you can assist me, please call.

Remember, dues for 1985 will be due January 1st with the yearly rate of \$12.00, after which they will be prorated one dollar per month. I understand how this incredible hobby can literally nickel and dime one to death, but a quick look at the treasurers report elsewhere in this issue will provide you with some insight as to why the dues must be increased. Out of pocket and club expenses for the repeater have only totaled somewhere in the neighborhood of \$300.00, and as a result we have a working system in operation; truly an accomplishment when all factors are considered. However, repeaters cost money to maintain, and we need YOUR support.

Brad
NB9M

NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 15
0800 HRS

HOUSE OF FRANKLIN

JANUARY MEETING: JAN 19, 0800 HRS

HOUSE OF FRANKLIN

GUEST SPEAKER: DAVE CROCKETT

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATION.

BE THERE EARLY FOR BREAKFAST!

ARES

It is with deep regret that I am writing this newsletter column this time.

As many of you are aware, on September 15, our group was invited to participate in the Simulated Emergency Test along with Bartholomew County civil defense.

The test was a great success in the morning session. All agencies, Indiana State Police, Bartholomew County Sheriffs Dept. and the National Guard, various ambulance services and fire departments were represented. Dan Dews (KK9G) and Toby Monk (WB9TSW) were representing Johnson County ARES/Midstate ARC, and were used to relay messages from these other public service agencies to the command post, manned by Lois Winterberg (KA9IOS).

After about two hours we wrapped up the morning operation with great results. The afternoon session, however, was not so successful. At the end of this session the two military helicopters became entangled on take-off and crashed. Two people were killed and a number were injured.

I believe the practice of simulations fulfills the need for practice to handle disasters, but this accident will mar an otherwise successful day. My sincere wish is that we will never be called upon to assist, but as you are now aware, disaster can strike; even during a mock disaster. We were ready and many lives were probably spared because of all the emergency personnel present.

Lets not let this dampen our willingness to act when called or feel that it is not necessary to practice our effectiveness.

Next year I hope our group can have better participation and be ready when called!

Dan
KK9G

From the Resident's Desk

Much has occurred since the last edition went to press. New officers, an operating repeater, several club activities, an ARRL club award; to name a few. The bottom line is: WE ARE ACTIVE.

All this activity is not without pitfalls. Long hours and too many duties piled on a few key people can cause tempers to flare and fuses to burn short. Let us not forget that this entire undertaking (Amateur Radio and club activities) is supposed to be fun and enjoyable for everyone. If you are over-involved, say so. If you are not involved, step forward and give the club a hand. Congratulations to N9AZD and his committee; your long hours with no sleep, etc., hopefully are over.

Special thanks to KA9OOH for the great publicity work on Field Day, which resulted in a Club Award.

We are on our way to becoming one of the most active groups in the area. Whether we continue depends entirely upon your desire or lack of it. This is your club, where do you want it to go? Speak Out!

May each of you and your families have a joyful holiday season.

Paul
KA9DTH

Treasurers Report

Balance as of 10/20/84:

Bank 216.24
Cash 7.00

\$223.24

Bills presented at October 20 meeting:

Pays Two-Way Service (K9BUD)	25.00
Paul Thomas for repeater I Der	133.60
Paul Thomas paid to NB9M	10.00
Paul Thomas paid to NB9M	6.66

\$175.26

Previous Balance: 223.24
Bills from above: 175.26

Balance after \$57.98
bills paid:

Tom
N9AZD

N9AZD Repeater

We have just completed our first stretch with the repeater in continuous operation. Congrats to all....

Give or take a few dollars, we can enjoy these privileges for a price tag of about \$300.00. Not a bad deal at twice the investment.

The equipment now resides east of Greenwood at KA9DTH's residence. The antenna height is about 65 feet. Paul has put on his carpenter's hat and has built a room within his detached garage.

This "winter home" is ideal for a couple of reasons: remote enough to avoid scanner interference but closer to the tech team.

As it now stands, we plan to burn in the gear for the winter, then relocate to a suitable commercial site if one is available.

Everyone should keep their eyes and ears open in the coming weeks. Look for a minimum of 100 feet, power access, and security. All inputs are appreciated.

Tubes have been a real thorn... two new 6146's, a new driver and multiplier in the transmitter were needed, as well as four new tubes in the receiver. Thanks to WB9YAJ, WA9MPH and WA9RDF for keeping us stocked for the moment. Here's a current shopping list for spares:

2 ea-6146's
4 ea-6BH6's
4 ea-12AT7's

If you have any of these tubes, contact one of the Tech committee members so we can add them to the spares stock. The more spare parts, the lesser down time grief for all of us.

Thanks to those who helped with the moral support, often as important as the hardware itself. Lets geve the 545 a real burn-in the coming winter months... use it frequently!

DAVE
KN9E

CLUB ACTIVITIES

The Christmas message program from the Masonic and Methodist Homes are developing; please see the schedule elsewhere in this issue.

Down the road.....Computers, does any one know someone we could rope into giving a presentation on computers related to ham radio? (Don't forget the pres sail we would buy their breakfast.)

Is there any interest in having a presentation by the wx service before the boomers start in March?

Field Day....Is there interest in a club F/D entry, using battery power or whatever?

Anybody got any ideas on a packet radio presentation?

Let us know what you want, or what you can secure, or what we both can secure.

HELP Wanted: File Comments, Save Towers

¶ Radio amateurs who have experienced zoning and other state or local restrictions on erecting effective amateur antennas: Your help is urgently needed! The League needs you to file comments with the FCC that give a factual account of problems you've encountered in obtaining permission from local authorities to erect your amateur antenna.

In mid-July, ARRL filed an extensive document with the FCC that requested the Commission to issue a public declaration that state and local authorities may not prevent antenna effectiveness. Such onerous restrictions inhibit the federal objectives of the FCC's licensing of amateur radio stations; therefore, the Commission should declare that such regulations are preempted. The FCC has since designated the League's request as "PRB-1," and established a "pleading cycle." Comments are now due November 9, and replies to comments are due December 14.

A notice requesting comments on the League's "Request for Issuance of Declaratory Ruling" on antenna zoning appears in the September 14 Federal Register. The notice says in part: "While it is not required that this notice be published in the Federal Register, the Register is being used in this instance as one additional method of seeking comments from the public because of the potential impact this matter could have on persons outside the field of communications."

It is critically important that as many radio amateurs as possible file comments on PRB-1. ARRL's request was preceded by a nearly identical request by United Satellite Communications, Inc. (USCI). USCI has found that its marketing of small, four-foot in diameter television receive only (TVRO) "dish" antennas has been severely restricted by state and local regulations. The problems TVRO owners have been encountering are similar in

nature to radio amateurs' problems. However, USCI's request has drawn heavy opposition from organizations that represent local government interests. (e.g., the American Planning Association, the National League of Cities, the City of New York, etc.) A common theme that runs through the comments of most of the opposition is the claim that USCI has failed to demonstrate that there is indeed a serious problem.

ARRL expects similar opposition to its request, PRB-1. That's why it is so important that individuals and clubs present the FCC with case-histories of problems hams have faced in getting or being denied permission to erect effective amateur antenna systems. Send an s.a.s.e with 88¢ postage to ARRL Hq. and ask for the PRB-1 material, which will give you our original filing and instructions for filing comments. The procedure for filing comments is simple: send one original and four copies of your comments to: The Secretary, FCC, Washington, D.C. 20554. The first page of your comments should include the heading, "Comments in Response to PRB-1." They must be received no later than November 9.

The League's request carries with it some risk in that if the FCC denies that preemptive relief requested, it could embolden local municipalities to increase its regulatory pressure on amateur radio. At the same time, however, it has become clear that the present course of fighting antenna regulations in the courts has not gained us much ground. Litigation is time-consuming, expensive, and its legal effect can easily be limited to the facts surrounding the particular case. What we urgently need is for the FCC to act positively on PRB-1. The FCC should issue a declaratory ruling exercising its federal preemptive authority over any state or local regulation that precludes or significantly inhibits effective, reliable amateur communications and which is not clearly necessary to insure the safety of the installation.

ANOTHER MIDSTATE FIRST

The members of Midstate ARC now have an opportunity to shine in the area of public service, thanks to the Greenwood P.D., the Greenwood Fire Dept., and the White River Township Fire Dept. If you are interested in taking some classes in dispatching, and want to help occasionally to dispatch for the departments, call Dan, KK9G at 882-8843 for details. Let's let them know we are here to help, and show the public what hams are made of.

SOFTWARE SWAPS

Do you collect software, and want to swap with others? Next issue will start a new feature for the computer buffs. Please call the editor at 882-5245 and give me what you have. Remember, I will not list pirated material.

¶ Following the tragic death of his mother Indira Gandhi by assassination, Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG, has been named Prime Minister of India, continuing the dynasty begun by his grandfather, Jawaharlal Nehru. A Telex message of condolence was sent to VU2RG:

"On behalf of Radio Amateurs of the World, wish to express our deepest sympathy on the tragic death of your mother. You are in our thoughts at this difficult time. [signed] Richard L. Baldwin, W1RU, President, International Amateur Radio Union."

REPRINTS
FROM THE
ARRL NEWS-
LETTER

HAM OF THE DAY-WA9RDF

Can you think of any other ham in the area that is better known, most appreciated and so instrumental in the hobby than Sandy Sanders? I was really hard pressed to find someone else to fill these qualifications to inaugurate this new column.

Sandy got his novice and tech ticket in 1966, when both were issued at the same time. Born in West Virginia, raised in the hills of Tennessee, Sandy and his wife migrated to Franklin in 1953. He has five children, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, with another boy expected in January.

Sandy's open shack policy, his full coffee pot and his warm handshake is well known to us- and he undoubtedly knows more about amateur equipment than any one else in the area. If there are any doubts, take a look at the size of his shack!

Thanks to WA9RDF for the information for this column. Next newsletter, I may be calling on YOU!

¶ The FCC released an Order on November 8 deleting 2310-2390 MHz from the Amateur Radio Allocations table effective immediately. Amateurs lost the secondary status in this microwave segment in July, see September QST, page 48. The segment 2310-2390 MHz is now allocated to the aeronautical flight test telemetry operations. Although this allocation was implemented in the Aviation Service Rules, the changes were not made to the Amateur Radio Service Rules. This Order now makes the elimination "official."

CHRISTMAS () WEEKLY SCHEDULE

12/6	WB9YAT, N9AZD] Masonic Home
12/13	WB9RCI, W9MLN	
12/20	WD9DVA, N9AZD	
12/17 (4-6pm)	WA9RDF, N9DOM, N9DLN] Methodist Home
12/8 (9-11pm)	KA9NUU, N9KXG	

Chaplin Walt Howard or the Methodist Home is making plans to allow us to gather and transmit messages on the following Thursday evenings during December 6th, 13th and 20th. The time has been set for 6pm to 8pm each evening.

The revised schedule for the Masonic Home is as follows:
Saturday, Dec 8, 9am to 11am
Saturday, Dec 15, 9am to 11am
Monday, Dec 17, 4pm to 6pm

Any others who wish to help, don't hesitate to call Ed, WD9DVA at 887-3510 or Joan, N9DOM at 736-9355. When someone takes the time with this type of demonstration and service, the folks really appreciate it.

EDITOR'S NOTE- Ed is threatening to play the role of dictator on assigning people to assist. To avoid embarrassment, call him first with info on best times for you in the busy holiday season.

CLUB HAPPENINGS

On September 25 KA9QYK and KA9DTH assisted KA9BHW, Ron Clark, in setting up a station at the Indian Creek Middle School. Ron presented an interesting and informative talk and the children were very attentive. W9MLN supplied the antenna and KK9G supplied printed material concerning amateur radio.

The date for the Midstate ARC Swapfest still has not been set, but tentatively will be the first of February. Don't forget to build that project for the homebrew contest, which will take place at that time. If you need a weird part, the Editor will give you free reign of a huge junk-box.

DUES ARE DUE!!

PLEASE SEND YOUR \$12.00 now; we need your support. Your check to the Midstate ARC will assist in assuring the repeater stays "on the air." Our club continues to grow and our service to the community in which you live continues.

Make your check payable to:
Midstate Amateur Radio Club
c/o Tom Carroll, Tres.
199 Briar Hill Dr.
Whiteland, IN 46184

REPEATER ACCESS

The president has provided the club with very nice facilities for our repeater, complete with telephone, workbench and a design for expansion. However, if a club member wants to visit the site and see the repeater committees' handiwork, they must seek out a member of the committee; Mr. President will not let you in without one. Also, it seems we have a bare wall. Traditionally, hams have a way around this catastrophic problem. Upon renewal of your membership, your QSL card would be appreciated.

NOVICE CLASSES STARTING

Dave, KA9OOH, is once again gearing up for another year of classes, starting February 28 on the south side of Indy. I've seen this guy in action; he captivates the students. For more information, call him at 784-1044.

Here is a suggested format submitted to us by Mike Head, WB9ZQE
for consideration in formulating your comment to the F.C.C in
response to PRB-1

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Spectrum Reallocation for Land)	RM-4829
Mobile Use.)	

COMMENTS OF
CORNELIUS M. HEAD, WB9ZQE

Start off by introducing yourself as a licensed amateur radio operator holding a certain class of license with the call. Follow this with the clubs and associations you belong to. Follow this with your comments, using a separate paragraph for each thought. Your final paragraph should be something on the order of "I respectfully ask the commission to . . . followed by a short paragraph stating your suggestions on the issue.

Send at least an original and five copies to "The Secretary;
Federal Communications Commission; Washington D.C. 20554".

Respectfully submitted,

Cornelius M. Head, WB9ZQE

9046 Mercury Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46229
(317)898-2792

LOOKING BACK AND HEADING AHEAD

The Midstate Amateur Radio Club is still short of being a year old in its present form. Other clubs in the area have come and gone, but we have accomplished more than all of them in this short amount of time. We have leadership, talent, drive and enthusiasm that is making itself more apparent with each passing month. What's more, we have no intention of stopping here. Let's look back a bit.

Our first Field Day was a smashing success last June. We have a repeater. The House of Franklin is hard pressed to accommodate our growing meetings, and our group of officers are hard at work at their meeting every month to consider new angles for growth. We've had the Bike-a-Thon, the Goblin Watch, the Fox Hunt, the S.E.T., and more. The atmosphere for hams in this area is completely different; friends are made and things are learned.

What's in store? The club is now looking at the possibility of being the official PAN-AM Special Event Station. Mini-DXpedition for the 5x9 enthusiasts. The repeater committee is looking hard and long at making our repeater system a very useful tool for all of us. A potential resource of 107 hams in this county alone who are not members yet! Swapfests, Home Brew contests, picnics, Fox Hunts, and an even bigger Field Day than last year! It's going to be hard to top last year's records, but we've already done things they said couldn't be done, and we haven't even started pulling out the stops.

Thanks to all of you who have put in so much effort, and sit back a moment to look at the fruits of your labor.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year -ED

CLUB AMENDMENT

There has been an amendment to Article II, Section 2 of our club constitution, dealing with the consideration of absentee ballots during officer elections. Dave, KA9OOH, has provided us with the change:

ADD THE WORDS: "Absentee ballots, if necessary, may be cast by giving them to the secretary in a sealed envelope before the beginning of voting for any office. The members name shall be written on the outside of the envelope, and, absentee ballots, if any, shall be included in establishing a quorum for any election."

DELETE THE WORD "PRESENT" FROM SECTION 2, ARTICLE II.

FCC UPDATE

The deadline for submitting your comment to the FCC in favor of Docket PRB-1 has been extended to December 24. For those of you who weren't aware of PRB-1, we need all the response from the amateur community we can get. If you are concerned about your local government having absolute authority over your antenna height for purely aesthetic reasons, or have had problems erecting your antenna farm because of a local ordinance, here is your chance to speak out!

Send your comments to PRB-1 to the FCC as soon as you can. The FCC does not accept petitions as more than one comment, so we each have to give them our say in the matter. On the December 17 meeting there will be a petition for the benefit of the entire club to submit to the FCC, but you must still do your part on an individual basis if you wish to see a rhombic again.

For a copy of PRB-1, send an SASE to :

(INCLUDE 88¢ POSTAGE)

ARRL
225 Main ST
Newington, CT
06111

They will also send you a suggested format for filing. The editor has in his possession a copy of the suggested format. Or, just start with your basic business heading, then launch directly into your views, making sure to address any problems you've had in the past with the erection of antenna structures. Send the original with four copies to:

The Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC
20554

CLUB LIBRARY

If you have any QST, 73 or other amateur radio magazines or books, the club needs them for expanding its library. All members are free to go them for any article or project of interest. Please call Tom, N9AZD, if you want to donate something. Tom has graciously donated precious space for the time being. His number is 535-8047.

HAM HOCKS

Heath 2-meter handheld Model VF 20301
Loaded with extras, CHEAP!!
Call Tom N9AZD 535-8047

Model 14AA Teletype, Rebuilt
With Hal STS Terminal Interface \$35
Call Dan W9MLN 888-9877

Viking II VFO, ready for FM, \$10
WRL 2 and 6 Meter VFO, \$15
200 Watt 10 Meter Amp, \$40
Call Dan W9MLN 888-9877

The following items were the belongings of Silent Key,
Don Lassiter:

Yaesu FT101EE with YC601 Digital Display, Landliner,
Desk Mic, MFJ Versa Tuner III (1.5 KW), Trap 40 Meter
Inverted Vee. If interested, please contact John McCartney
at 881-1417. The price is only \$650

Kenwood TR2500 Hand-Held, spare battery pack, leather case,
base fast charger with built-in speaker and mic complete.
\$185 Firm. Call Brad NB9M 882-5245

Drake Twins (B-Line), Astatic Desk Mic, Dentron GIA 1000
1 KW linear. New Finals in Both. The Drakes do Work but
Could Use De-bugged. Call Brad NB9M 882-5245 \$500 FIRM

IF YOU HAVE AN ITEM YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE LISTED FOR SALE
IN HAM HOCKS, YOU ONLY NEED TWO THINGS: CLUB MEMBERSHIP
AND MY TELEPHONE NUMBER, 882-5245. OF COURSE, CHECK WITH
WA9RDF IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING, TOO! -Ed

The President reminds us that any illness, accident or death
of a member or family of a member should contact N9DON, Joan,
for cards, flowers, etc. Her number is 736-9355. Also,
our club Trustee, Darrel KM9S, will handle club and ARES
publicity. Contact him 736-4049 with any newsworthy info.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOB HAWKINS, WA8VZY, FOR GETTING HIS
EXTRA TICKET LAST JULY. SORRY WE MISSED YOU LAST NEWS-
LETTER, BOB.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF ELECTRONICS

- I. Beware of the lightning that lurks in an undischarged capacitor, lest it cause thee to be bounded upon thy backside in a most ungentlemanly manner.
- II. Cause thou the switch that supplies large quantities of juice to be opened and thus tagged so that thy days be long on earth.
- III. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiate and upon which thou workest are grounded, lest they lift thee to a high frequency potential and cause thee to radiate also.
- IV. Take care that thou use the proper method when thou takest measure of high voltage, that it not incinerate both thee and thy meter, for verily, though thou hast no account number and canst be easily replaced, the meter doth have such and shall bring great woe upon the supply section.
- V. Tarry not amongst those who engage in intentional shocks, for they are surely non-believers and not long for this world.
- VI. Take care thou tamper not with interlocks and safety devices, for this shall incur the wrath of thy seniors and unleash the fury of the safety officer down upon thy head and shoulders.
- VII. Work not with energized equipment, for if thou doest, thy buddies will surely be buying beers without thee and thy space at the bar will be filled by another.
- VIII. Verily, verily I say unto thee, never service high voltage equipment alone, for electric cooking is a slothfull process and thou might sizzle in thine own fat for hours before thy maker see fit to end thy misery and draw the into his fold.
- IX. Trifle not with radio active tubes and substances, lest thou commence to glow in the darkness like unto a lighting bug.
- X. Commit thou to memory the words of the prophets which are written in the instruction books. They give unto thee the straight dope and steer thee from error.

Next issue- look for a new feature to keep your soldering irons tinned. Those of you who have a Commodore or Apple computer will be interested in building a relatively simple but very effective CW terminal unit to handle the toughest conditions on the low end of our bands; all for about \$20 dollars.

SPECIAL THANKS TO CLIFF, N9EGO FROM COLUMBUS FOR DONATING
A SPACE HEATER AND ANTENNA SWITCH FOR OUR REPEATER, AND
MARTY, KA9PCT FOR TRANSPORTING THEM TO US.

The following is a list of Central Indiana U.S. Senators and U.S. Representa
In matters concerning the FCC and rule making effecting Amateur Radio,
you should contact your Senator. It's a good idea to also contact Senator
Barry Goldwater.

U.S. Senate

Honorable Richard G. Lugar
46 E. Ohio St.
Federal Bldg Rm 447
Indianapolis, IN 46204
306 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable J. Danforth Quayle
46 E. Ohio St
Federal Bldg Rm 447
Indianapolis, IN 46204
254 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. House of Representatives

Honorable Philip R. Sharp
376 S. Madison Av.
P.O. Box 267
Greenwood, IN 46142
2452 Rayburn Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Daniel L. Burton
8900 Keystone at the Crossing
Indianapolis, IN 46250
120 Cannon Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Andrew Jacobs, Jr
46 E. Ohio St.
Federal Bldg. Rm. 441
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1533 Longworth Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Barry Goldwater
363 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510